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Down To Earth

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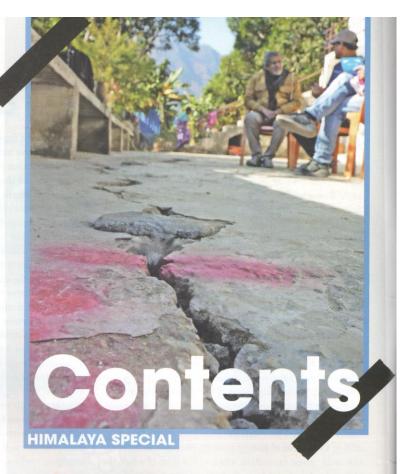
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race to decarbonise industries sees the US and EU shed their long-standing zeal for free trade and introduce protectionist policies at the cost of developing countries

- Digest Why the earthquake in Türkiye and Syria was so deadly
- Union Budget With allocation cuts in subsidies, rural India has little to cheer for
- 20 Jharkhand drought The state ill-prepared despite undertaking ample water works
- 24 New energy source Finland develops a battery using sand from construction sites
- Bid for bio-CNG All that ails production of this clean fuel in the country
- Invasive species Planned seaweed park in Tamil Nadu poses threat to coral





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Suffrage in Shackles

10 After 72 years of adopting universal adult franchise in its Constitution, India has remained unperturbed to the cause of voting rights of prisoners. — Anwesha Panigrahi, Akankhya Panigrahi

Covid Nationalism and Its Discontents

This article examines China's response to the spread of COVID-19, the framing of this response through nationalist narratives, and the eventual chaotic pivot from zero-Covid policy. — *Tansen Sen*

SDG India Index: A Critical Assessment

The Sustainable Development Goal India Index released by NITI Aayog continues to attract public attention. This article highlights a few methodological problems in the spg India index. — Md Zakaria Siddiqui, Mohd Feroze Khan

SDGs and Small Tea Growers of Assam

24 Tea, the most popular beverage in the world, is also an important industry for the rural economy and acts as one of the contributors to the internationally agreed-upon Sustainable Development Goals. — Apurba Saha, Edlina Kerketta

Natural Rubber Sector in India

28 The changes experienced by natural rubber sector in India during the globalisation period and its consequent challenges are examined in this article. — A Sajitha

Contrasted Agrarian Change in Punjab

41 The scarcity of lucrative non-farm jobs and the stagnant or declining agricultural incomes for rural households in Punjab, especially for the Jat Sikhs, are causing distress. By selecting two villages of different types from Ludhiana and Jalandhar districts, this paper presents how the different conditions inherent to the villages led to sharply contrasted agrarian changes. — Koichi Fujita, Akihiko Ohno & Kamal Vatta

New Labour Codes and Women Workers

52 The union government has enacted four new codes amalgamating existing 29 labour legislations, and presently is in the process of finalising the rules. This paper examines the probable impact of such changes on women workers, in the context of the declining female labour force participation rate in the last few decades. Labour laws need to be reframed in such a manner that they contain measures that facilitate greater female participation in the labour market. — Kingshuk Sarkar, Ellina Samantroy

How Smart Are Indian Smart Cities?

59 This paper deals with the components of a "smart city" and the governmental actions required for their sustainability. It aims at analysing the perception of the people towards the smart city project and gauges their understanding of its components based on a purposive sampling method. On all fronts of the smart city components, it was found that the general public were not satisfied with the facilities available. — Naina Sambher, D D Sharma

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This bill can be best characterised as adopting a soft tone for businesses and granting the tiger claw to the state. - P Arun

COVID-19 and Female Unpaid Labour

The COVID-19 pandemic and the associated lockdowns have added to unpaid household labour for women. - V Kalyan Shankar, Rohini Sahni

Failure of Uttar Pradesh's Textile Policy

18 This article critically analyses why the Uttar Pradesh textile policy of 2017 fails to enhance the economic situation of the handloom workers. - Lipi Ghosh

Struggle for a Level Playing Field

21 Ensuring a level playing field for all sportspersons, especially sportswomen, requires a radical overhaul of all sports bodies. — Jagmati Sangwan

Green Finance

24 Green bonds can be a key part of strategies to incorporate climate action into financial decision-making and help developing countries meet their environmental obligations. — Ismail Siddiqui, Navaneeth M S

A Step Ahead in School Nutrition Programmes

27 The introduction of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme in government and aided schools is a timely intervention to ensure nutritious food for children aged between five and nine. - R Gopinath, R Rengalekshmi

India's Exclusive Growth

35 In the period since the early 1990s, India's economy experienced exclusive growth, that is, growth that benefited the rich. The richest 10% of the population has been the recipient of a large and growing share of the incremental income generated by growth. This paper investigates, theoretically and empirically, the rise and persistence of exclusive growth. - Ajit K Ghose

To Patent or Not?

43 India has undertaken many regulatory and legislative reforms to promote innovation and patent protection by universities and academic institutions. This paper provides an empirical estimation of the extent to which patenting by academic institutions in India is affected by factors like institutional policy frameworks, departmental differences, and individual researchers' characteristics. — Akriti Jain, Ruchi Sharma & P Vigneswara Ilavarasan

COVID-19 and Migrant Workers from Rural Bihar

54 More than half of the rural households had at least one migrant worker prior to the pandemic, and for 94% of these households, the migrant workers' livelihood was adversely affected. There was large-scale reverse migration with a huge fraction of returning migrants spending as much as four to five months in native villages with limited opportunities for alternative work. — Gauray Datt, Swati Dutta & Sunil Kumar Mishra

Postscript

63 Vikki Gayakavad on the popularity of Hindi film songs in Greece; Rajlakshmi Kanjilal on the South Korean series Extraordinary Attorney Woo; Suheel Rasool Mir on Kashmir University's Naseem Bagh; and Last Lines by Ponnappa.

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A Train to Nowhere

7 Passenger traffic has fallen sharply as the railways prioritise high-end travel over ordinary passengers.

Social Significance of Modern Gardens

8 The state must cultivate more parks to ensure greater social and environmental cohesion.

Municipal Elections and the Constitution

10 Some of India's largest cities with a population of a little more or less than one crore have gone without a municipal government for several years.

— Alok Prasanna Kumar

Minimum Wages and Informal Jobs

13 The presence of a large informal sector as the mainstay of semi-skilled and unskilled workers raises questions on how the adoption of minimum wage in the formal sector could affect job opportunities. — Saibal Kar, Yashika Khattar

The Fragile Discourse of Caste in West Bengal

19 The objective of this article is to put forward a modest hypothesis to test, namely "to politicise caste in Bengal, it needs to be taken out from the fold of Hindu religion." — Shiveshwar Kundu

Railway Landscape and Urban Marginalisation

23 Indian cities, in the last few years, have shown substantial inclination towards rail-based transit-oriented development as a tool to make them more competitive in terms of liveability at a global scale. — Iman Banerjee, Apala Saha

Strengthening Municipal Finances

28 International experience from both developed and emerging economies suggests a much higher level of intergovernmental transfers to local governments. — Meera Mehta, Dinesh Mehta & Dhruv Bhavsar

Knowledge and Global Inequality

36 This paper characterises the current structure of the world economy as a combination of knowledge monopolies, which also become monopsonies, largely located in the headquarter economies of the global North, with producer companies mainly based on commoditised knowledge in the supplier economies of the global South. — Dev Nathan

Is There a 'Money Machine' Tax?

This analysis, based on more than four decades of time series data on sales tax/value added tax/goods and services tax in India, does not reveal any nonpareil revenue potential of var or the var-based gst system. Though the gst revenue has started growing at a faster pace since mid-2020, it is yet to meet its target. — Anita Rath

Aggregate Demand and Economic Growth in India

55 Applying the autoregressive distributed lag to the co-integration model and incorporating the structural changes in policies since 1991, it is found that in the long run, out of the five components that significantly influence the aggregate demand and hence the economic growth of India, the private final consumption expenditure plays the most significant role followed by private fixed investment. — Umesh Bhagat, Hrushikesh Mallick

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The Land-Sea Conundrum

The new transcontinental linkages are challenging the monopoly of international trade management by Western maritime powers. — *Atul Bhardwaj*

FYUP and the NEP 2020

14 The four-year undergraduate programme has been adopted by an executive order of the government without any proper deliberation. —Sudhanshu Bhushan

The Dam Safety Act, 2021

17 The asymmetrical arrangements in political and administrative aspects of the Dam Safety Act, 2021 are interrogated in this article. — Rajeesh C S, Ashwati C K & Manu Sharma

EWS Reservation and Social Justice

20 With the Supreme Court's pronouncement in its favour, the reservation for economically weaker sections has become infallible. — Harish S Wankhede

Making Election Manifestos Legally Binding

23 Even if the election manifestos are made legally binding, its implementation would remain incumbent upon the Election Commission's competency.
— Gokul Krishnan, Jehosh Paul, Revati Pillai & Saurabh Raj

Review of Urban Affairs

29 Six papers examine a wide range of contemporary issues in Indian cities from multidisciplinary perspectives.

Women Corporators and the Gendered State

Little is known regarding how women politicians at the local level influence everyday political work. This paper focuses on narratives from 14 women corporators in the newly formed Vasai–Virar City Municipal Corporation in the context of expanded electoral representation for women in cities. — Lalitha Kamath, Kanak Rajadhyaksha

WhatsApp and Urban Waste Management

38 Using the cases of two participatory policies for waste management in Mumbai—Advanced Locality Management and Swachh Mumbai Prabodhan Abhiyan—this paper explores WhatsApp as a platform for citizen—government interactions in urban policy implementation. — Jennifer Spencer

Street Vending in Master Plans Post 2014

45 The paper posits that the progressive policies of spatial protection for the street vendors directly contradict the state planning practices of addressing informality that rests on restrictive control of the informal and centralisation of planning powers. — Aravind Unni

Women Waste Pickers of Kolkata

51 The women waste pickers of Dhapa, Kolkata seem to withstand the dehumanising disposition of their work by embodying a liminal "hybrid" identity to dissociate from their corporeal and sensorial selves. — Shreyasee Dasgupta

Cultural Ecologies of Urban Lakes

57 How competition between different caste groups shapes urban political ecologies is explored in this paper. Urban communities mobilise narrowly defined caste associations to strategically make claims to place, and lobby for resources and recognition. — Pullanna Vidyapogu, Indivar Jonnalagadda

Socio-spatial Relations in Delhi's E-waste Market

62 This paper offers new insights on the caste segmentation of commerce in urban India and the role of kin networks and "community capital" in consolidating Seelampur's status as a key node within India's e-waste economy.

— Aakansha Jain, Vinay Gidwani

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71 Tapas Mitra revisits football history and memory; Surya Sankar Sen reflects on his friendship with a cattle smuggler; Mrinmoy Pramanick examines the legend of Behula; and Last Lines by Ponnappa.

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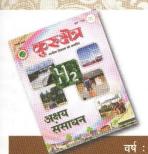
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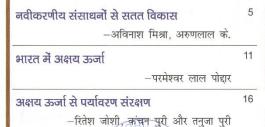
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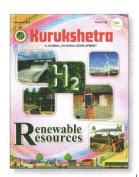


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योजना का लक्ष्य देश के आर्थिक विकास से सम्बन्धित मुद्दों का सरकारी नीतियों के व्यापक संदर्भ में गहराई से विश्लेषण कर इन पर विमर्श के लिए एक जीवंत मंच उपलब्ध कराना है।

योजना में प्रकाशित लेखों में व्यक्त विचार लेखकों के अपने और व्यक्तिगत हैं। ज़रूरी नहीं कि ये लेखक भारत सरकार के जिन मंत्रालयों, विभागों अथवा संगठनों से संबद्ध हैं, उनका भी यही दृष्टिकोण हो। योजना में प्रकाशित विज्ञापनों की विषयवस्तु के लिए योजना उत्तरदायी नहीं हैं।

योजना में प्रकाशित आलेखों में प्रयुक्त मानचित्र व प्रतीक आधिकारिक नहीं है, बल्कि सांकेतिक हैं। ये मानचित्र या प्रतीक किसी भी देश का आधिकारिक प्रतिनिधित्व नहीं करते हैं।

योजना लेखकों द्वारा आलेखों के साथ अपने विश्वसनीय म्रोतों से एकत्र कर उपलब्ध कराए गए आंकड़ों/तालिकाओं/इन्फोग्राफिक्स के सम्बन्ध में उत्तरदायी नहीं है। योजना किसी भी लेख में केस स्टडी के रूप में प्रस्तुत किसी भी ब्रांड या निजी संस्थाओं का समर्थन या प्रचार नहीं करती है।

योजना घर मंगाने, शुल्क में छूट के साथ दरों व प्लान की विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए पृष्ठ-54 पर देखें।

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